

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization
International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date
29 June 2006 (29.06.2006)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 2006/068637 A1

(51) International Patent Classification⁷: G01N 27/68,
B60C 23/00, H01H 9/50, G01R 1/04

(74) Agent: DORITY & MANNING, P.A.; 55 Beattie Place,
Suite 1600, Greenville, South Carolina 29601 (US).

(21) International Application Number:
PCT/US2004/042712

(22) International Filing Date:
20 December 2004 (20.12.2004)

(25) Filing Language: English

(26) Publication Language: English

(71) Applicant (for all designated States except CA, MX, US):
SOCIETE DE TECHNOLOGIE MICHELIN [FR/FR];
23, rue Breschet, F-63000 Clermont-Ferrand (FR).

(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): MICHE-
LIN RECHERCHE ET TECHNIQUE S.A. [CH/CH];
Route Louis-Braille 10 et 12, CH-1763 Granges-Paccot
(CH).

(72) Inventors; and

(75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): SINNETT, Jay,
C. [US/US]; 201 Briton Way, Greenville, South Carolina
29615 (US). METCALF, Arthur [CA/CA]; 3359 West
Bay Highway, RR #2, West Bay, Nova Scotia B0E 3K0
(CA). O'BRIEN, George, P. [US/US]; 142 Wren School
Road, Piedmont, South Carolina 29673 (US).

(81) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every
kind of national protection available): AE, AG, AL, AM,
AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN,
CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI,
GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE,
KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD,
MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NA, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG,
PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SM, SY,
TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU,
ZA, ZM, ZW.

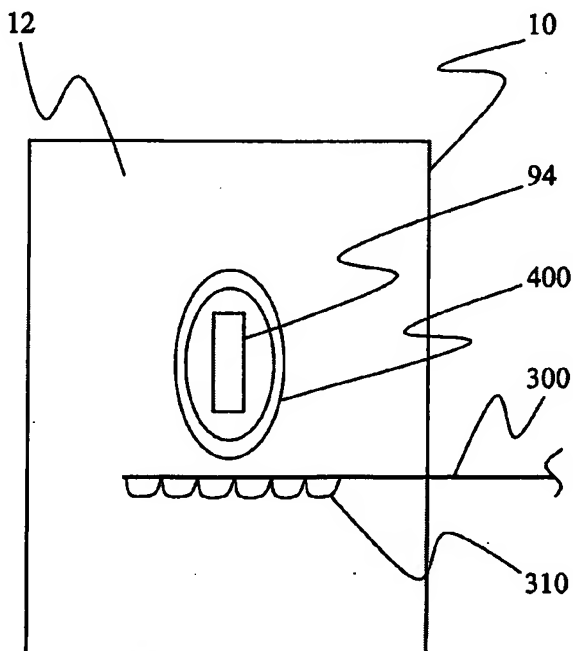
(84) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every
kind of regional protection available): ARIPO (BW, GH,
GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, NA, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM,
ZW), Eurasian (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM),
European (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI,
FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IS, IT, LT, LU, MC, NL, PL, PT, RO,
SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN,
GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

Published:

— with international search report

For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guid-
ance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the begin-
ning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

(54) Title: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR PREVENTING DAMAGE TO ELECTRONICS DURING TIRE INSPECTION



(57) Abstract: Disclosed are apparatus and methodologies for protecting tire (10) electronics from electrical discharge damage during a tire (10) inspection procedure. Aspects of different embodiments of the disclosed subject matter relate to various techniques for providing protection from high-voltage discharge for tire (10) electronics devices (94). Exemplary techniques disclosed correspond to methodologies for preventing contact with a high-voltage source (310), controlling conditions produced by contact with high-voltage sources (310), or nullifying effects of contact with high-voltage sources (310).